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Patent Docket P2830P1C38

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Kevin P. Baker et al.

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Serial No.: 10/015822

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Filed: 12/10/2001

August 29, 2002

Patricia Terrill

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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SEP 23 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900 Prior to substantive examination of the above captioned patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

In the specification:

Please delete the paragraph at page 1, line 2, that was previously added by preliminary amendment.

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

-- RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/946374 filed 9/4/2001, which is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT/US00/04342 filed 2/18/2000, which is a continuation-in-part of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT/US00/03565 filed 2/11/2000, which is a continuation-in-